

# F&A | NEWS & VIEWS

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## Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup> F&A Employee Appreciation Day 2004

Each year for the past 12 years, a day has been set aside for the Department to show its appreciation to F&A Employees. Through the years this special day has taken on different forms, but the underlying message has always been to acknowledge the value the Department places on our employees.

This year we're changing things up a bit. We'll meet in the War Memorial Building around 10:30. Then, for a few minutes, we'll listen to Commissioner Goetz and Deputy Commissioner Mike Morrow tell us how great we are; then we'll pay special tribute to employees who this year will observe service award anniversaries of 25 years or more. To top off the morning, we'll get fired up from listening to Mr. Tom Gunnels, a well-known motivational speaker and author present his famous, "Keep Your Lights On" session.

We'll conclude with a door prize or two and top it off with sandwiches from Subway.

Mark your calendar for Friday, September 24 at 10:30 a.m.

You'll be glad you did!

## Get Ready for Sick Leave Bank Enrollment!

### For Non-Members – Enrollment Period

Membership in the State Employee Sick Leave Bank is a valuable investment. It provides coverage much like a short-term disability policy. It covers members who are temporarily totally disabled as a result of an unplanned personal illness, injury, or quarantine and who have exhausted all their personal sick, annual, and compensatory leave balances. **Open enrollment begins August 1, 2004, and ends October 31, 2004.** A brochure and enrollment form providing more information about the requirements for enrollment and the benefits afforded to members of the bank will be included with the July 31, 2004, paycheck stub. Plan to enroll this year!

More information on the Sick Leave Bank can be found at the DOP website at [www.state.tn.us/personnel/resources/sickleave](http://www.state.tn.us/personnel/resources/sickleave).

### For Current Members – Annual Contribution

**October 1, 2004** is the date for the annual contribution of one (1) sick day from all current members. **As we are going to print, it has not yet been decided to assess current members another day this year; however, in the event an assessment is approved, current members of the bank will be required to hold one (1) sick day in their sick leave balance by September 30, 2004, to be able to meet the October 1 contribution.**

State Offices Closed  
on Monday, July 5,  
2004.



Have a Great Independence  
Day!

Volume 14, Issue 7

## The F&A Spirit: Big Brothers of Nashville

*Editor's Note: Each month, we feature individuals or divisions that display the F&A Spirit of compassion, kindness, and generosity through support of or working with various programs or organizations. If you have information of other individuals or divisions who participate in this kind of service, please contact **Walter Brooks** or **Renee Jackson**.*

Believing in the premise that "those that have should help those who have not," the idea for Big Brothers of Nashville was conceived in 1912 by two compassionate businessmen who enlisted the aid of the Nashville Businessmen's Association for its first door-to-door tabloid sale. The \$1,700 that was raised allowed them to distribute 3,000 Christmas Baskets that year. To this day, the Big Brothers story is told each year in the tabloids that *The Tennessean* has continued to generously contribute since it first printed the 1912 tabloids.

Big Brothers has become known as the "Charity of Last Resort" because the private-sector donations that Big Brothers receives gives the organization a flexibility in their giving, allowing it the ability to help in many cases where other charities cannot. Although the annual Christmas Baskets are still a significant part of the program, Big Brothers has evolved over the years to include year-round assistance to families experiencing nonrecurring, emergency situations. The primary purpose is to help those who are temporarily in need until they can get back on their feet and enter the mainstream of living and functioning. The needs are varied, and can include such items as food and clothing, past due utilities and house notes, wheelchairs and ramps, transplant patient travel expenses, dentures for a waitress dependent on tips, a suit or dress for a job-seeker, camp for indigent children, etc.

Additionally, Big Brothers of Nashville pays utility bills for the needy throughout the year through the Big Brothers Energy Fund that is funded by the annual "Rudolph Red Nose Run" (during the Holiday season) and "Project Help" donations from Nashville Electric Service and Nashville Gas customers. A Catastrophic Fund is also maintained by Big Brothers, out of which approximately \$75,000 was spent in 1998 for the Nashville tornado victims.

Since Big Brothers has only two paid employees, nearly all of its collected funds are used to directly assist the needy. All other management and services are provided on a pro bono and volunteer basis. In fact, Big Brothers' officers and board members are elected annually from representatives of about 25 to 30 "syndicates" (including such organizations as the Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, Exchange Club, Sertoma, various churches, etc.) that help Big Brothers with the tabloid sale each year. These

syndicates make their own annual organizational contributions to Big Brothers in addition to the funds obtained through their tabloid sales.

I am an active member of American Legion Post 5 here in Nashville, and one of the major charity projects that Post 5 is involved in each year is their assistance in helping Big Brothers of Nashville with their annual tabloid sale. I have been involved with this project for over 30 years, and I have been in charge of a major territory for Big Brothers (that includes about 2,100 homes) as part of the Post 5 "syndicate." There are many former, active, and retired State employees who are a part of the 60 to 70 volunteers that come out and help me with this project each year. They are members of about a dozen teams that cover the territory in about two hours using detailed maps, collecting contributions from residents who have been notified in writing of the event during the previous week. The fact that this territory collects about \$5,000 each year for Big Brothers makes it worth all the effort it takes to organize it. (Since Post 5 began covering this territory in 1972, over \$130,000 has been collected there for Big Brothers.)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the State employees (and their families) who have assisted me with this project over these many years. Indeed, Post 5 shares my deepest appreciation to the many volunteers that assist us each year with this most worthwhile project, and our sincere thanks goes out to each of them for their willingness to share a few hours of a December Sunday morning so that Big Brothers can come to the aid of a few more people in need. We would not be able to do it without them. They are truly Nashvillians Helping Nashvillians!"

The State employees (former and current) who, with their families, have assisted with my Big Brothers territory over the years are listed below. Former and current F&A employees are listed in bold letters.

**Karin Adhikary**  
**Carole Adams (Mrs. Gerald) - deceased**  
**Moe Ahmadi**  
 John Bass  
**Myra Blunt**  
**Philip Brown**  
**Shannon Daniels**  
**Roger D. Davis**  
**Gloria Dickens**  
**Gene Gibson**  
 Gayle Feltner  
**Norm & Dionne Holcombe**  
**Estilene Hunter**  
 Bob Ingram  
**Mike James**

**Chris Kanumury**  
**Satya Kanumury (deceased)**  
David Kelly  
**Tom Kleespies**  
**Ollie Lambert**  
**Phil Lockabey**  
**Zhaleh Malek**  
**Judy Monday**  
**Raisa Oyvetsky**  
**Frances Owens**  
**Scott Pickens**  
**Mike Polk**  
Robert Powell  
**Harold & Joan Sanders**  
Israel Serrano  
Tom Spillman  
**Mary Turney**  
**Louise Vandever**  
**Mel Waldron**  
**Bob Watson**  
**Vicky Whitehead**  
**Gladys Wolfe**  
**Soussan Zayanderood**

— Frank Forbes  
OIR/Applications & Solutions Delivery

## Kudos

**April Woodruff** (Legal) is excited about her son's new CD.....

*I just wanted to share with you a proud mother's moment. My 18 year old son Michael Benn (who goes by Mic Benn - stage name) has been in the music industry since high school. His cd was released in Knoxville, TN on May 18, 2004 at Cat's Music, 7337 Kingston Pike - Knoxville, 5034 North Broadway - Knoxville and at the Disc Exchange, 2615 Chapman Highway, 8420 Kingston Pike. He is also on the Dean's list at Tennessee State Tech while working at UPS at night. His older brother 'Varnell Benn III (who also attends TN Tech and works at UPS) also will have a cd which should come out sometime next year.*

Give a big hand (and a drink of cold water!) to **Martha Staley** (Legal), **Patrice Steinhart** (Accounts/Payroll), and **Karen Free** (Accounts) for walking the Country Music Half Marathon (13.1 miles) on Saturday, April 24.

The Lascassas Indians, a 7 and 8-year-old coach pitch team coached by ISM's **David E. White**, played in the opening youth exhibition as part of the Jeff Fisher & Friends Charity Softball Game at the Nashville Sound's Greer Stadium. David Lee White (David's son), played in a hard fought game, and made a couple of key defensive plays that kept

the game close (Or at least closer that it would have been). When interviewed about the most memorable event regarding the game, David Lee showed off his baseball hat that contained several autographs from Titans that were present for the evening's softball game. For the elder David, his most memorable event was his childhood dream coming true by pitching in a professional baseball stadium.

Robert Boone, son of **Dr. Carol Boone** (Insurance Administration) graduated Summa Cum Laude on May 8 from Howard University, Washington, D.C. A Political Science and English Major, Robert was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. He will attend the Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California at Berkeley this fall.

Congratulations to **Martha Staley** (Legal) and **Van Moffatt** (OIR) for being accepted in the 2004 class of the Tennessee Government Executive Institute (TGEI) and to **Bill Eubank** (OIR) and **Scott Pierce** (Budget) for being accepted to the 2004 class of the Tennessee Government Management Institute (TGMI).

Congratulations to **Cliff Steger** (Capital Projects/Real Property Management) on his recent installment as President of the National Association of State Facilities Administrators (NASFA)

On Friday, June 11, several F&A employees found that they had been summoned to a special meeting with Major General Jerry Humble, Director of the Tennessee Office of Homeland Security. While riding the elevators, you could hear whispers of "What's this meeting all about?" and "What's coming up?" But upon arrival, all tension eased when General Humble announced that the purpose of this meeting was to thank them for all of their help in the last several months as Homeland Security got itself established by providing administrative support services ranging from facilities management to computer access.

After expressing words of thanks and appreciation, General Humble presented a framed certificate to each of the employees, who were all surprised and pleased for the recognition of their work. Those receiving certificates include:

**Maureen Abbey**  
**Cathy Bastoky**  
**Nancy Blevins**  
**Walter Brooks**  
**Yunita Davis**  
**Leslie Humphreys**  
**Renee Jackson**  
**Drew Jordan**  
**Gail Morris**

**Carol Neiger**  
**David Sledge**  
**Anne Shaughnessy**  
**Darren Smith**  
**Penny Stafford**  
**Mark Vogel**  
**Kim Wright**

## E-mail Scams

E-mail is a powerful tool that helps people share information easily. Most of you have also received unsolicited e-mail, or SPAM, on more than one occasion. The unsolicited e-mail often comes in many styles, from simple advertisements, to false virus threats, to various ways of separating someone from their money.

Looking closer at how some of the unsolicited e-mails try to separate you from your money, we find one style of e-mail scam that has been successful in ripping off the uninformed.

Below is a real e-mail that was received by a customer in F&A, who recognized the threat that it posed. Some of you have seen similar variations that use a different country or social/political situation to try and convince you that there is a quick way to make some easy money, while in truth you would be opening yourself up for identity theft and theft of money from your bank account.

MR WANG QIN  
HANG SENG BANK LTD.  
DES VOEUX RD. BRANCH,  
CENTRAL HONG KONG,  
HONK KONG.

Dear Sir,

*Let me start by introducing myself. I am Mr. Wang Qin credit officer of the Hang Seng Bank Ltd. I have a concealed business suggestion for you.*

*Before the U.S and Iraqi war our client General. Ibrahim Moussa who was with the Iraqi forces and also business man made a numbered fixed deposit for 18 calendar months, with a value of Twenty millions Five Hundred Thousand United State Dollars only in my branch. Upon maturity several notice was sent to him, even during the war early this year. Again after the war another notification was sent and still no response came from him. We later find out that the General and his family had been killed during the war in bomb blast that hit their home.*

*After further investigation it was also discovered that Gen. Ibrahim Moussa did not declare any next of kin in his official papers including the paper work of his bank deposit.*

*And he also confided in me the last time he was at my office that no one except me knew of his deposit in my bank. So, Twenty millions Five Hundred Thousand United State Dollars is still lying in my bank and no one will ever come forward to claim it. What bothers me most is that according to the to the laws of my country at the expiration 3 years the funds will revert to the ownership of the Hong Kong Government if nobody applies to claim the funds.*

*Against this backdrop, my suggestion to you is that I will like you as a foreigner to stand as the next of kin to Gen. Ibrahim Moussa so that you will be able to receive his funds.*

### WHAT IS TO BE DONE:

*I want you to know that I have had everything planned out so that we shall come out successful. I have contacted an attorney that will prepare the necessary document that will back you up as the next of kin to Gen. Ibrahim Moussa, all that is required from you at this stage is for you to provide me with your Full Names and Address so that the attorney can commence his job. After you have been made the next of kin, the attorney will also fill in for claims on your behalf and secure the necessary approval and letter of probate in your favor for the move of the funds to an account that will be provided by you.*

*There is no risk involved at all in the matter as we are going adopt a legalized method and the attorney will prepare all the necessary documents. Please endeavor to observe utmost discretion in all matters concerning this issue.*

*Once the funds have been transferred to your nominated bank account we shall share in the ratio of 70% for me, 25% for you and 5% for any expenses incurred during the course of this operation.*

*Should you be interested please send me your full names and current residential address for easy communication and I will provide you with more details of this operation.*

*Your earliest response to this letter will be appreciated*

Kind Regards  
Mr. Wang Qin

Anyone who responds to this e-mail would be further contacted to provide additional personal information, leading up to the point when they would be asked to provide bank account information in order to receive the "payment".

If you ever receive an e-mail that is similar to this you should not respond to the sender. You should forward the e-mail to the GroupWise public group known as SPAM Abuse and then delete the e-mail. If you receive something like this at home, you should delete it.

Please realize that if you were to respond to the sender, even if it was to inform them that you weren't interested, what you then do is verify for the sender that your e-mail address is a valid account that is actively being used. This in turn may result in additional attempts, or additional unsolicited e-mail being sent to you.

If you ever have any questions or concerns about the



validity of an e-mail that you receive at work, please feel free to contact **Bradley Chessor** (741-9769) or **David E. White** 741-9775.

— **David White**  
Administration/Information Systems Management

### EAP: The Stress of Caregiving

Being a caregiver can cause emotional toll and physical harm in spite of your commitment and desire to help your loved one. According to Dr. Andrew Weil, a report in the July 4<sup>th</sup> issue of the "Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences," stress from caring for a spouse with Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia resulted in health problems.

A study of 223 healthy elders ranging in age from 55 to 89, over six years found that those (117) who were caring for a partner who had dementia had markedly higher blood levels of interleukin 6, a molecule that can weaken the immune system. The molecule also promotes inflammation, heart disease, diabetes, osteoporosis, frailty, and certain cancers. The elders who were not caring for an ill spouse had levels of IL-6 that were four times lower. The findings suggest that a chronic stressor, such as caring for a debilitated family member, can significantly affect normal age-related increases, resulting in the premature aging of the immune system.

What can be done to reduce the stress and health issues that accompany caretaking? The caregiver needs to find ways to relieve the natural stress experienced with this role. Involvement in support groups, enlisting the aid of family members and others for help with chores, etc. are some practical possible solutions.

For further assistance, contact the Employee Assistance Program at 1-877-237-8574 for a confidential, free consultation regarding caring for a loved one.

### All Star of the Month Award



Any employee who receives an All-Star Award from a co-worker is eligible to receive the Commitment to Excellence Award. This award is presented to the employee who is selected as the All Star of the Month. So all it takes to be eligible is being caught in the act of doing something good.

## Election Year Reminder

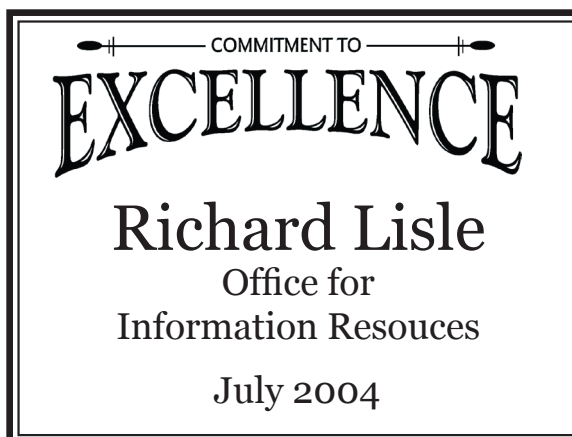
In this election year, State employees should ensure that their conduct during work hours is within the boundaries of the law.

Under federal and state law (TCA 2-19-201 through 208 – The Little Hatch Act), during regular work hours, a state employee may not actively engage in a political campaign on behalf of any party, committee, organization, agency, or political candidate; attend political meetings or rallies; or use their official position or employment to interfere with or affect the result of any regular or special primary election; or perform political duties or functions not directly a part of their employment.

State employees should particularly take note of the following prohibitions:

It is unlawful for any elected or appointed official of the state, or any employee of the state or any department, division or agency thereof, to display campaign literature, banners, placards, streamers, stickers, signs or other items of campaign or political advertising on behalf of any party, committee or agency or candidate for political office, on the premises of any building or land owned by the state, or to use any of the facilities of the state, including equipment and vehicles, for such purposes.

It is unlawful for any person employed by the state to engage actively in a political campaign on behalf of any party, committee, organization, agency or political candidate, or to attend political meetings or rallies or to otherwise use such person's official position or employment to interfere with or affect the result of any regular or special primary election conducted within the state, or to perform political duties or functions of any kind not directly a part of such person's employment, during those hours of the day when such person is required by law or administrative regulation to be conducting the business of the state.



# Employee Updates



Finance & Administration  
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21st Floor, TN Tower  
Nashville, TN 37243  
615.741.3478

## Welcome New Employees

**Mark F. Bengel**

OIR/Applications & Solutions Delivery

**William J. Bryan**

Administration/Business & Finance

**Marilou Cook**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

**David B. Dimond**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

**Jason R. Guthormsen**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

**Jason W. Guthrie**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

**Troy L. Hunter**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

**Christopher T. Krauth**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

**Randy Martin**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

**Keith Meenach**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

**Meseid Mikheil**

Administration/Business & Finance

**Julie Paige**

Administration/Information Systems Management

**Gregory Roberts**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

**Ronald F. Walker**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

## Best Wishes To Our Departing Employees

**Rhonda M. Barnes**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

**Danny Cook**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

**Rick Hayes**

Administration/Information Systems Management

**Patrick J. McBride**

Accounts

**Tammy L. Ogles**

OIR/Applications & Solutions Delivery

**Vipul D. Patel**

Administration/Information Systems Management

## Service Awards

### 5 Years

**Tracy Brown**

Accounts

**Boyd Glover**

Budget

**Cindy M. Hicks**

Budget

**Jennifer Schoonover**

Capital Projects/Real Property Management

### 10 Years

**Jeff Fields**

Capital Projects/Real Property Management

**Larry Walker**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

**Margaret Walton**

Administration/Billing Services

### 15 Years

**Mike King**

OIR/Applications & Solutions Delivery

**Brian Spain**

OIR/Applications & Solutions Delivery

**Ann Lynn Walker**

OIR/Quality, Planning, Performance & Security

### 20 Years

**Alice Cothron**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

**Bill Scollon**

RDS/Criminal Justice Program

**Robert Tonini**

OIR/Operations & Infrastructure Support

### 25 Years

**Chris Eckert**

OIR/Applications & Solutions Delivery

### 30 Years

**Bill Bradley**

Budget

**Brenda Powers**

Resource Development & Support

## Congratulations to Our Retirees

**Kathryn G. Walden**

OIR/Applications & Solutions Delivery

**Mickey J. Wynne**

OIR/Applications & Solutions Delivery